HOPE

HEALTH OPULENCE PEACE ENLIGHTENMENT

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OUR BELOVED RAPHAEL

Hark! 'tis the glorious Archangel
Singing in Earth's atmosphere!
Listen! it's beautiful Raphael
Flooding His Light far and near.
See, in Its radiant splendor—
Naught but perfection can live;
Hear! as He speaks through each heartbeat—
"Feel Love's great mercy—FORGIVE!"

Give all your world to our Raphael—
All who would Heaven regain;
He'll flood His power of love through you,
Lifting discomfort and pain.
Call to this glorious Archangel,
Hold yourself quiet within;
Wait for His current of blessing—
In you new life will begin.

Raphael, our glorious Archangel,
Make us Your beauty and peace;
Bring us Your Heavenly Legions;
Let mankind's struggle now cease!
Loving and blessing You always—
Raphael, to God's heart we call—
"Flood forth great oceans of glory
To Raphael and Archangels all."

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THE ARCHANGEL RAPHAEL

(Archangel of Healing and Consecration)

The magnificent Being known to us as the Archangel Raphael has dedicated a great part of His life and service to the directing of Healing Rays from the glorious Temple of Light wherein He abides, in the Higher Realms of God's Perfection. These Healing Rays flow not only to those in distress in the physical appearance world, but also to any and all life in distress in the astral or psychic plane which still surrounds the Earth.

The Temple of the Beloved Archangel Raphael is a beautiful Focus of Light into which, from time immemorial, have been charged tremendous energies qualified with God's healing power. This qualified light-essence is drawn there by Lord Raphael—the Archangel of Healing and Consecration—directly from God Himself (which, so far as the Earth and our planetary System are concerned, is our physical Sun, wherein abide the Great Cosmic Beings known as Helios and Vesta—Who were the Creators of our planet and our System as well. The word "healing" comes from the Name of Helios Himself). Just as an automobile battery, attached to a "charger" absorbs the currents of power from that "charger" so that it can give that power to a means of conveyance which will bless some other part of life with service, so do the Archangels, as well as the Angelic Host, Seraphim and Cherubim, by Their rhythmic attention and adoration upon and to Their great God-Source, absorb into Themselves the specific qualities of that Godhead which They wish to radiate to some other part of life to raise it and then expand that perfection. The Archangels and entire Angelic Host absorb the powers of light's perfection from God into Themselves and then expand and direct that perfection into the souls, minds, bodies and worlds of those who can and will accept the blessings given.

The glorious emerald-green columns which make up the courts of this Temple are garlanded with Flame Flowers of every conceivable constructive color, fragrance and formation and the Temple is without roof—open to the Divine Radiation from the Godhead. Through these columns come constantly into these courts the Shining Ones—not only those of Raphael's Legions, but of the entire Angelic, Seraphic and

Cherubic Hosts. They bathe in the substance of the clear green light of the Temple Flame and there, while in the Presence and feeling of that Flame, They re-consecrate Themselves from time to time to greater service to God.

Angels, like all of God's self-conscious creations, are also subject to the laws of expanding consciousness, development and evolution. From the smallest Angel who has just been drawn into being and given the breath of life by the Father-Mother God, to the greatest Angelic consciousness, there is always *opportunity to expand* that consciousness and capacity to serve God and man. Thus Lord Raphael provides (as do all the Archangels) schoolrooms for His Angelic Host. Here, the Angels are prepared for service—learning how to draw more and more healing power from God—holding that healing essence within Themselves until They have reached the world of the supplicant who requires it. They learn to sustain that healing essence within Their light bodies and auras until They reach the person, place, condition or thing where that healing essence is needed. When They have accomplished this God control—They are sent earthward to carry to individuals who are in distress that substance qualified with the power of healing. The small Angels, somewhat like children, enjoy the *comforting feeling* and peace of the Healing Rays but are not able to sustain that feeling too long within Themselves. It just naturally flows out from and through Them without restraint, as the life energy of children flows forth in bursts of song, in physical romping and in personal enjoyment. However, as these Angels come to maturity, They can and do sustain the essence and its feeling of the healing power of God within Themselves and in Their auras. Then They are ready to carry that feeling and essence of healing to any part of life which is in distress. Then they are directed by Lord Raphael or His assistants to carry that healing essence into the homes, hearts, souls and environments of any individual who is calling for spiritual help to release him from distressing conditions in the physical world. Much of the time such supplicants have tried every possible solution to their problems from an "outer standpoint" and, finding no relief from the burdensome circumstances and conditions, they turn, practically in desperation, to those Whom, in their hearts, *they know can bring them relief.*

These calls come in the form of prayer (often silently) to the Godhead as the lifestream calling understands that Godhead to be; or they may come as conscious invocation to the Angelic Host by those aware of Their reality and willingness to serve man.

The Angels love beauty—especially Divine Order, perfume and constructive color. Their natural estate around the Father's Throne or in the Temples of Light is *extremely* beautiful! Thus They are *naturally attracted* to individuals whose feelings are lovely—harmonious and peaceful and who surround themselves in their daily living with orderly, clean environments,—not necessarily luxurious—but with balanced form and constructive color. They will often enter a home where natural flowers pour forth the beauty and perfume of their being; where music of a harmonious and balanced rhythm is being played; where individuals have created an invitation for Them by prayer, ritual and general spiritual preparation of soul, mind and body.

The Divine Plan for the Earth and Its people was and still is that the Angelic Host, the human Kingdom and the Elemental Kingdom should serve together in harmony, creating the perfection of the Kingdom of God on Earth . . . following the invocation of our Beloved Jesus: "Thy Kingdom come; *Thy Will be done on Earth* as It is in Heaven!"

In the Temple of Lord Raphael, great Angelic Beings direct healing currents earthward in ceremonials of such perfection that they are beyond the ken of human mind. These currents of healing energy are like great search-lights which play through the emotional (feeling body), mental (thought body), etheric (memory world) and physical bodies of the people of Earth. If and when individuals are conscious and cognizant of the presence of these currents of healing, such individuals can and do draw into their individual worlds more powerfully directed Rays and so experience quicker answers to their calls. Thus a knowledge of the Angelic Host and the specific blessings which can be drawn from each of the Seven Rays and directed by any one of the Archangels, is helpful in the extreme to the aspiring lifestream desiring to magnetize certain blessings for himself and his fellowman.

The Beloved Master Jesus naturally is closely connected with Lord Raphael in directing the healing powers to life in

distress. Jesus' dear Mother Mary, also serves with Lord Raphael.

Another service of Lord Raphael is to consecrate the life-streams of individuals who desire to serve God and man in this physical appearance world. By the use of projected light-rays which connect with the energies of those who have a true vocation in life (through the channels formed by those light Rays), He and His Angelic Host pour Their feelings of Faith, Divine Love, Constancy of service, Wisdom and all the gifts which enable such an individual to remain true to his chosen vocation, even against the greatest distresses and discouragements the outer world may offer.

The cover-poem to Lord Raphael may be used efficaciously in drawing the personal consecration of the individual to God's service or the consecration of children and loved ones to that service. Wisdom tells us that in the presence of unbelief and the skepticism of others, the wise man makes such a consecration silently. However, if asked so to do by someone else, the consecration, of course, can be made audibly.

Endeavor to cultivate the feelings of acceptance of the sure reality of the great Angelic Host and Their Presence with you at your call! Think upon Them! Invite Them to come and help you and your loved ones. Let your home be a focus for Their Presence. In times of peace and quiet, when there is no special need, form the habit of giving Them just a few moments of daily attention so that you *establish within yourself the feeling of Their reality, ability and eager willingness to help you.* Then, in times of distress, when you do need Their immediate and all-powerful assistance—They will be able to enter your world much more quickly and efficaciously through the momentum of acceptance you have builded. Thus They will be able to give you much greater help and you will be able to see and feel Their instantaneous response to your call.

The Healing Angels of Lord Raphael are busily engaged in directing the currents of healing through sick-rooms and hospitals of every kind. Their Presence can be and has been attested to by many who required more than *human* aid. These Angels stand beside and often work through the doctors and nurses who have consecrated their lives and abilities to alleviating the human ills of mind and body. The purpose of these Angels is to bring the feeling of the love of God

for and to man into the consciousness of the people of this world and to make them feel not only God's *ability* but His *eager willingness* to give them at their call, every possible gift of His love, visible and tangible in their hands and use; *practical gifts for use in the daily life of the supplicant.* So are often drawn together (*as though in the natural course of events*) persons, places, conditions and things which produce the actual physical things or conditions necessary to answer the prayer of the supplicant. This often appears to the prayerful one as perfectly natural turns of events, but it is actually because of the service of these Angels that these blessings are received. Many legions of these glorious serving Angels are ever present in the atmosphere of Earth.

Sometimes, as They go to and fro in Their journeys from the Temples of Healing to Earth for service and return there again when Their service of the moment is completed, these Angels often stop for a while to visit certain men and women who have provided (as described above) places of beauty which attract Them. Wherever These beautiful Beings go, They leave a permanent benediction of Their feelings of Grace and Divine Love. One day, the human veil will be parted and all mankind will be able to see these Shining Ones; then rejoicing in association and service with Them. To this end, men and women who are cognizant of the Angelic Host are building "bridges" from the Angelic consciousness into the outer mind of humanity. These "bridges" take the form of books, lectures, beautiful pictures, poems, music of unbroken rhythm; all of these things which focus the attention of mankind upon the reality of the Angels. Our articles in "Hope" this year on the Presence and Reality of the Archangels form one such "bridge". There are many others.

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Beloved Heavenly Father and Thy Divine Messenger, Archangel Raphael! Direct Thy healing currents to me. Through me let those currents flow out to heal all life in distress—particularly all that which I contact. Help me to want to consecrate my life, purified, expanded and qualified by Thy grace for that service. Beloved Raphael, consecrate my life and service to the Lord and keep me constant in that service all ways. Amen!

(NOTE: The cover poem to Beloved Raphael forms the three verses of a song to that great Being and the four lines below form the chorus of that song. The melody is the familiar "Whispering Hope".)

Consecrate me to Earth's great victory!
Lift Her strain and Her stress
By Light's great happiness;
Every heart sings as our Raphael brings
Healing in His great wings!

"And It Shall Come to Pass—"

Angels shall walk with men again!

Looking at the world through the eyes of an Angel would be a very interesting and enlightening experience to the humanity of this Earth and would explain in a great measure Their complete freedom from human qualities.

Individuals who have taken flesh forms have lost the vision that is an integral part of the Angelic evolution, because in the wearing of a flesh form the consciousness has become unduly impregnated *with the importance of the vehicle* and judges all life by form. Such a concept has closed the door to the world of the Real and has made mankind prisoners of their own human vessels (bodies); whereas the Angelic Kingdom and the other inhabitants of the Fourth Dimension recognize only the color tones and radiations of Light and the most exquisite harmonies of the Spheres.

These Perfected Beings are immune to imperfection, which is a blessing that the Father of Love bestowed on Them so that They might pass through Their entire evolution without distress of any kind.

As individuals choose to become co-workers with the Angelic Host, they will have tremendous opportunity to draw those Heavenly Beings close to them in the one manner which can evoke the Presence of an Angel—whose radiation is all Divine Love. As the humming-bird is drawn to the trumpet of the flower by the natural instinct of its being, so are Angels drawn by the harmonious radiation and the musical outpouring of a serene nature. Wherever such a lifestream abides, one will fiind many of the Angelic Host in the aura of that one's being, enjoying the peace and fragrance of that atmos-

phere. The Angels absorb the vitality and strength emanating from an evolving god; while the harmonious individual is the recipient of the Divine joy and illumination of consciousness which is the constant outpouring of the Angel's being. Such was the association of Tobias and the Archangel Raphael when Raphael led him safely across unknown and dangerous highways; guided him in the wise selection of a wife; yea, handled an important business matter for him and brought him safely home again.

So, everyone reading these words, through the emanation of the feelings of Divine love and harmony, may draw consciously unto himself an Angel Presence to be his constant Companion and Divine Guide in every experience of his life!

* * * *

TOBIAS AND THE ARCHANGEL RAPHAEL

It came to pass that Tobias, being weary and blind (having suffered much because of keeping the Laws of God and burying the children of Israel who were slain in the streets) felt he was about to leave this Earth. He summoned to him his son (also named Tobias) and said:

"Eat thy bread with the hungry. Give alms out of thy substance. Never suffer pride to reign in thy mind. Bless God at all times. Take this note, my son, to Gabelus in Rages, a city of the Medes; for years ago I loaned him ten talents of silver. Now get the money from him, for we now lead a poor life and have need of it."

Tobias answered, saying: "I will do all things as thou dost command. But how I shall get this money, I cannot tell. How, too, shall I know the way thither?"

His father saith to him: "Go now in faith in the God of thy fathers. Seek out some faithful man for hire to go with thee."

Tobias left his father's house filled with doubt and fears for the journey. He hadn't gone far when he found standing, girded as it were to walk, a handsome young man. Not knowing He was Archangel Raphael of God, Tobias asked him: "From whence art Thou?" He answered: "Of the children of Israel". And Tobias said: "Knowest Thou the way that leadeth to the country of the Medes?" And He answered: "I know it, and have often walked through all the ways thereof. I have

abode with Gabelus, our brother, who dwelleth at Rages." Thereupon Tobias brought Raphael to his father, that his father might meet the companion of his journey.

So, going in, the Angel greeted the father saying: "Joy be to thee always." And Tobias said: "What manner of joy shall be mine, who sits in darkness?" The young Stranger spoke saying: "Be of good cheer! *Thy healing from God is at hand!*"

Soon thereafter, having made final preparations for their mission, the young men departed. After they had gone, the mother of Tobias wept. Her husband said: "Weep not. He shall return. I believe that the Angel of the Lord doth accompany him and he shall return with joy."

Raphael and Tobias went forth. They lodged the first night by the river of Tigris. Another night Tobias questioned his Companion: "Where wilt Thou that we lodge?" The Angel answered: "Here is one Raguel, a kinsman of thy tribe. He has an only child, Sara. Thou must take her to wife. Ask for her hand of her father." Tobias replied: "It is said she is possessed of a devil (evil spirit). I am an only child and desirest not to bring sorrow unto my father."

Then Raphael spoke to him: *"The devil can prevail only on those who shut out God from their mind!"*

They went to Raguel, Tobias doubting in his heart. He found, however, that all happened as spoken of by his Friend. Raguel received them with joy and commanded that a feast be prepared for his kinsmen. As they sat to eat Tobias petitioned Raguel for Sara. Raguel hesitated in giving his reply, for he, too, knew it was said that Sara was possessed of a devil.

Raphael, therefore, said to him: "Fear not to give thy daughter to this man, for he liveth in the ways of God." Raguel answered: "God has regarded my prayer and sent thee. Now I give her to thee." Then taking a paper they made a writing of the marriage. Afterwards their hearts were filled with joy, blessing God, for during this time, Raphael (the Angel) had removed Sara's affliction from her!

Raguel adjured Tobias to abide with him two weeks, and he gave half of all he possessed to Tobias; the remainder to go to him after Raguel's decease.

Tobias called the Angel, whom he took to be a man, and

arranged that he take beasts and servants and go to Gabelus in Rages, the city of the Medes. This Raphael did and He told Gabelus of Tobias, and made him come with Him to the wedding of Tobias and Sara, where there was much feasting at the house of Raguel.

As they were returning to Tobias' father, the eleventh day they came to Charan. The Angel said: "Brother Tobias, thou knowest how thou didst leave thy father. Let us hasten on before the rest and let the family follow. Cherish Faith, the gift of God, which is in thy heart, and it shall come to pass—that which is destined for thy father."

Now, Anna, who watched daily for her son's return, saw him from afar. She ran joyfully to her husband and told him.

Raphael said to Tobias: "As soon as thou shalt come into thy house, adore the Lord, giving Him thanks. Then go to thy father and place thy hands upon his eyes." And his father came stumbling to meet his son and they did weep for joy and adored God. Tobias, knowing that Raphael had indeed guided him well, did as He bade him. With deep Faith within his heart, acknowledging the one God, he placed his hands upon his father's eyes. Within a short time the film was removed from his eyes and immediately the father recovered his sight. Tobias said: "I bless Thee, Oh Lord God of Israel, because Thou has chastised me; and Thou hast saved me, and behold I can now see my son Tobias."

And after seven days, Sara and all the family arrived. The cattle, the camels and an abundance of money of his wife's, and the money also which he received from Gabelus. He told his parents all the benefits of God which he had done to him by the Man who conducted him. And for seven days with many relatives they feasted and rejoiced.

Then Tobias called his son and said: "What can we give this Holy Man?" Tobias, answering, said: "What can be worthy of His benefits? He caused me to have my wife, and chased from her the evil spirit. Thee also He made to see. I beseech thee to desire Him to accept one-half of all things that have been brought." So the father and son, calling Raphael aside, begged Him to accept one-half of all they had.

Then Raphael said to them secretly: "Bless the Lord. Prayer is good with fasting and alms. When thou didst pray with tears and didst bury the dead I offered thy prayer to

the Lord. Because thou wast acceptable to God, it was necessary that temptation should prove thee. Now the Lord hath sent Me to heal thee and to deliver Sara, thy son's wife, from the devil, for I am the Archangel Raphael, One of the Seven Who stand before the Lord."

When they heard these things they were troubled and fearful. Raphael said: "Peace be with thee! Fear not! It is time that I return to Him that sent Me. Bless ye God and publish His works." And when He had said these things, He was taken from their sight. Lying prostrate for three hours, they blessed God; and rising up, they told all His wonderful works.

Tobias, restored to his sight, lived two and forty years thereafter. It came to pass after the death of his mother, Tobias (the son) departed out of Ninive and returned to his father-in-law and mother-in-law and lived in honor to see his children's children to the fifth generation.

CONSECRATION OF CHILDREN AND THE "UNBORN"

Myriad bands of spirits await at the Gates of Birth for opportunity to come into the world and find, in this "schoolroom," the ANSWER to their reason for being . . . Mastery of energy and vibration.

You are among those who are able to pray for and assist such incoming spirits, because of your knowledge now of Lord Raphael and His power of Consecration. Before some children are born, they have literally "sat at the feet" of the Masters of Wisdom. They have pledged themselves to help mankind in this era of change and progress. The Gates of Birth give to them opportunity to express their gifts, talents, powers, understanding and fulfillment of their vows to life, made at Inner Levels of consciousness. The homes and environments into which they come here; the parents they will have to guide them in their early years; the teachers and guardians; all of these will either help or hinder their progress.

Those of you interested in the younger generation and in their constructive development are invited to call *daily* to Lord Raphael, the Archangel of Consecration, to pour the actual essence and substance of the beautiful Green Ray of Con

secration into the souls of such incoming children, as well as into those who are already in embodiment. It is not necessary that you *know* either the parents or the child. The service of the Angelic Host is as impersonal as the rays of the Sun shining on the "just and the unjust" alike. However, by their calls to Him, any person can direct Raphael's Rays into a particular locality, just as any member of the human race can focus the Sun into their own solarium or sunporch by providing "open windows" through which that Sun can shine. To you, then, we suggest cooperation with Lord Raphael for the benefaction of the younger generation to whom—in time—will be given the task of building and sustaining a more beautiful and enduring world.

Call to Lord Raphael and His Messengers! Invoke the Rays of Consecration to service to so enter the souls of those about to take embodiment and those already embodied. Be sure, however, that *you* do not choose the vocation of the child *for him,* but rather allow the Christ *within* the child opportunity to unfold (as the flowers in a garden) according to the particular gifts such an one desires to bring to the race. As truly and unsuccessfully as if you tried to make a rose into a daffodil, so can an unwise and wilful parent or guardian who decides to fulfill his own ambition through a child, *destroy the natural beauty* of the child's life by endeavoring to bend its life-expression into a service for which it is not fitted. Even beloved Mary, Mother of Jesus and Her beloved Joseph, had to learn the lesson to "let God's Will be done" through Their Son; when, distressed because He did not follow the caravan to which They had attached Themselves, He rebuked Them with the statement: "Know Ye not I must be *about My Father's business?*"

It is far easier to consecrate those we do not know or in whom we have no personal interest than those whom we hold near and dear and whom we secretly, often unknown to ourselves, desire to do *our* will rather than the Will of God. To become selfless enough to so consecrate our loved ones to doing the Will of God is a great lesson in itself. When you have come to that point, you can honestly invoke the consecration of that soul and life (without selfish motive or hidden personal desire) to *truly* "be about the Father's business."

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Suggested Form of Consecration

Beloved Heavenly Father and beloved Archangel Raphael! I invoke the Mastery of Your Presence to enter into the soul (or souls) of .... (here enter names if you know them). Expand through that one Your courage, strength, and power of God-accomplishment helping such an one to fulfill his or her Divine Plan on Earth.

Bless with illumination, protection and victorious God-accomplishment, all the life of this dear one as it enters his (or her) body through the top of the head and finds anchorage within the heart.

Bless this soul with spiritual vitality; an awareness of its Divine Source; its reason for being and perfect Faith in the ability and willingness of that Source to help it fulfill its Divine Plan.

Protect, purify and illumine the senses of this child (or children).

Let the eyes of this one always see only that which is good, true and beautiful.

Let the ears hear and record only the harmonious blessings of love and kindness.

Let the sense of smell only report to the consciousness of this dear one the fragrance of purity.

Let the throat, the vocal chords and the mouth be used only to speak words of encouragement and blessing; to raise all the life it contacts in consciousness and help it progress more quickly toward its eternal goal.

Let the hands of this dear one be used only to create beauty and perfection; to heal, prosper and serve all they contact.

Let the feet always carry the body forward upon the Paths of Righteousness into greater and greater perfection of being.

In Your Most Holy Name "I AM", I consecrate this (or these) lifestreams to serve only and always the constructive purposes for which You did originally create and have sustained the person of this child (or these children). As I have made the call—knowing that "The Call COMPELS the Answer," *I accept this done now,* eternally sustained and ever-expanding.

(NOTE: This is a very simple form of consecration. Placing the right hand just over and a little above the top of the head of the one to be consecrated, while the consecration is being given, (if the parents or guardians of the child will allow it), more powerfully anchors these blessings into the actual physical structure of the child.

If there is antagonism or unbelief on the part of the parents or guardians, give this blessing silently. Through such consecration are the avenues of the senses closed to iniquity and opened to Divine Grace. This is very practical and most beneficial to the lifestream receiving it.)

THE LEGEND OF THE SHIELD

(Obedience and Consecration to Service)

"You must remain here to guard the gateway," said the Lord of the Castle to the youngest of the Knights.

Sir Roland's face fell. On this the day of opportunity, when all of the Knights were going forth to do battle against the worst of the forest giants he, from among them all, must forfeit his chance to "win his star."

Now all the boys of the Middle Ages looked forward to becoming a Knight and every Knight desired to prove his mettle by doing some good and very heroic deed. But this particular Order of Knights to which Sir Roland belonged, had given to each a magic shield, which indicated by the brightness or dullness of its surface, whether or not a Knight had been energetic in the Cause of Justice, or had been fearful and careless in the face of danger. Besides, after many successful accomplishments, there appeared on the shield a beautiful star, shining with exceeding brightness and the Knight was then said to have won the highest of all honors—"his star". Thus far, only the Lord of the Castle bore the golden star upon his shield.

Of course, all the Knights welcomed the opportunity of ridding the deep recesses of the forest of the most evil of the giants, who made it their business to menace all peaceful travelers happening to pass by or to raid any Castle to which they could gain access.

But it fell to Sir Roland, whose shield already reflected the light of bravery—he, from among them all—to remain at the Castle where there was to be no action! He tightened his lips, hastily lowered his helmet and immediately took his post at the gate, lest others suspect the disappointment he was struggling to control.

As was usual in those days, a drawbridge extended from the high gate directly across the moat which surrounded the Castle. At the approach of an enemy, the bridge was instantly drawn against the side of the Castle, so that no outsider could easily reach the Castle itself.

It was such an ordinary task to remain behind—a mere gate keeper—as the Lord, with all the other Knights, confident of victory, marched forth in great array.

The uneventful hours dragged by. Once again he opened the gate to see if there might be any signs of activity. This time he beheld a strange object on the path. As it approached, he saw it was a Knight limping toward him.

"I'm wounded," said the cowardly Knight, "but I can keep the Castle gate, while you go forth to take my place at the battle."

How Sir Roland's heart rejoiced at this perfect opportunity! But, "No!" he said most firmly. "My work is here.

I have been commanded to allow no one to enter. Your work is there. Go back to your place in the contest."

Much ashamed, the troubled Knight returned to the forest, while Sir Roland held his post at the gate.

After a while an aged beggar woman appeared at the Castle and asked Roland if she might come in for something to eat.

"None are to come in today," Sir Roland told her. "But I shall have a meal prepared for you and you may eat and rest outside the gate."

"Have you news of the battle?" she asked Sir Roland, while she was waiting for the servant to return with the food.

"No," Sir Roland replied, "but I trust the Knights are winning."

"I fear otherwise," she answered. "The Knights were hard put even to hold their own, when I just now passed the hollow. It seems to me you would be of more use there than standing idly by the gate."

"A Knight must remain where his Commander has put him; he does not take orders from others," Sir Roland retorted.

"No doubt you enjoy your safety from danger!" she returned with derision.

Sir Roland closed the gate quickly, as he gave her the food which the servant had brought, lest his anger get the better of him and he would fail in his courtesy, even to a beggar.

Not very long after this, he heard a strange voice, calling from some distance.

"Sounds like it is from the other end of the drawbridge," thought Sir Roland, as once more he opened the gate.

Sure enough, across the moat he beheld a queer-looking little old man garbed all in black. He was flashing a diamond-studded sword which glittered in the sunlight.

"You need not come here," the knight called to him; "the Castle is closed today."

"I am seeking one Sir Roland. Are you not he?" asked the stranger.

"I am he," said Sir Roland, "but what need have you of me?"

"I have come to bring you this sword—this magic sword. It was designed especially for you to carry into battle with the giants. Against it they cannot endure. Take it and win

for yourself the honor of a lifetime! Stay your indifference to the plight of your fellow Knights! Even the Lord of the Castle is in danger! Accept the magic sword! I implore you."

Sir Roland was beside himself with joy. His heart fairly pounded. Only a magician could have devised so fine a sword. And to think it was for him! Perhaps his long waiting at the Castle had not been in vain after all! How grateful his Commander would be to see this sword of victory!

But no! No! He'd been entrusted with a duty. He would *not* forsake his post, even for a proffered glory!

With determination he gave the signal to have the drawbridge lifted. *None—not even a magician could sway him from his purpose!*

Then suddenly a strange thing happened. The magic man in the little black cloak changed into the largest of the forest giants. Incensed over his defeat, the deceiver left angrily for the hollow.

In a moment of reflection, Sir Roland trembled at the thought of what might have happened had he yielded to the false enticements. It was then that he realized that *three times* had temptation in disguise tried to swerve him from his trust.

But hark! What is the joyous note now sounded by a bugle? 'Tis the Lord of the Castle returning with the victors! The giants had been defeated! Once more Sir Roland gave the signal for the drawbridge to be lowered, this time with assurance that all would be well; this time to meet the Knights returning home in triumph.

"Come! Give me the key to the gate," said the Lord of the Castle to Sir Roland, "and relate to us what has happened during the day."

The young Knight could not imagine why they all stared at him with such astonishment, for his accounting of the day's events was mild indeed compared to the tremendous odds which his fellow Knights had suffered.

"Men may err in judgment," said the Lord of the Castle to Sir Roland, "but the Silver Shield has never been known to bear false witness."

And then it was for the first time that Sir Roland looked at his shield and there upon it shone in all its brilliance, the "golden star of honor."

"The hardest battle of the day has been yours, Sir Roland,"

said the Lord of the Castle, "and you, the youngest of the Knights, have won the noblest victory. . . . Victory over pride! Victory over self aggrandizement! Victory over deceptive appearances."

Whereupon, they all arose and accorded him due homage.

PEACE BEGINS WITH *YOU!*

Everyone wants to experience the joy of Peace, to be happy and content and to make that possible of accomplishment we must, within our hearts, *feel* poised and at peace. We must become at peace first with ourselves and then we must desire to give of that quality to our fellowman if we wish to add to the harmony of the universe. When we can send forth a radiation from ourselves which is an expression of beauty, truth and beneficence, we have taken a step forward in the giving of good to others.

When we can unreservedly give of the God Virtues to our fellows, without discrimination as to race, color, creed and that subtlety *personal* preference, we will be adding to the Peace of the world. We say, "how can we give of something which we do not seem to possess?" We must learn to "step aside" in so far as the human self is concerned and let that well-spring of goodness, the anchorage of The Father within our hearts, be the radiating center of ANY GOD-VIRTUE with which we wish to bless our fellowmen. The more the little self turns its attention to the Christ within, the more that self merges with and becomes a reflection of the Perfection which one day all men must manifest.

World Peace can and shall become a manifest fact! That is the Divine Edict for this planet Earth. All the component parts of the Brotherhood of Man must be at peace before World Peace can be accomplished. It would behoove us all to start practicing Peace individually and, as we wax strong, to give of that Peace to others; bearing in mind that, every time we are in that state of Grace (Peace), we are consciously or unconsciously adding to the Peace of the Universe; for, as the small flame of a candle adds to the light of the world, so does the minutest radiation of a God-Virtue add to the blessings of the world.

When we become anchored in that Peace (poise), conditions which had seemed insurmountable present a different picture and the solution is easier of accomplishment.

Take the word "accomplishment". Are we not at all times *accomplishing* something—with our physical gestures, our thoughts and all our senses? Let us take stock of ourselves. Are we adding to the beauty and harmony of the Universe by sending forth a radiation of Peace, Love, Hope or any of the virtues which are of God? Or—no need to enumerate the myriad faults of men.

It takes but a moment on awakening in the morning, after giving adoration and love to the One Source, to say: "I would this day give Your Peace to all whom I contact and all life everywhere." How does one give of something he does not feel he possesses? By setting aside the separate (human) self and asking God to be the Doer, through him. Peace of any kind, be it World Peace or Peace in one's family, business or affairs, is DEPENDENT upon the individual. We have all experienced the situation wherein someone whom we have met socially or otherwise has left with us a tangible substance of Peace or some Virtue. We have said: "What a calming influence, I wish I could be like that." You can!

Practice Peace, or any quality with which you would like to enrich the Universe. There is much food for thought in the old adages: "Practice makes perfect" and "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again."

When we learn to be selfless and to do for others, we find happiness. While we are practicing Peace to give to others, we are BECOMING that Peace. We remember that the beloved Master Jesus said: *"My* Peace I give unto you" and that He made numerous references to "The Father *within."* Into each beating heart flows that Life Force, the very substance of Our Creator. It is the same essence which the Nature Kingdom uses so obediently and lavishly to bring forth God's beauty to uplift the soul and furnish food for our sustenance. Can we who claim a higher intelligence than that of Nature, not be as obedient to the Laws of the Universal Father and bring forth His Kingdom on Earth?

The world is calling as never before for Peace! It is *your* opportunity to add to the Peace of the world!

One well known gentleman who sought Peace prayed (seem-

ingly in vain) to God for help. One morning he awoke impressed with the desire to ask God what he could do for Him, instead of the endless petitions he had previously sent up asking God for personal help. In reversing the process of prayer and by becoming the giver of his life to the Father, he found Peace. Try this aspect of prayer and devotion. If you want Peace, ask the Father to make you a channel and focus of His Peace in this chaotic world rather than asking for personal Peace. See the results. Feel the joy in co-operating by letting God use you in His Wise Way.

GOD'S HEALING PRESENCE IN YOU!

Jesus, the Beloved Master, said: "The Kingdom of Heaven is *within you!*" Therefore, the Kingdom of Health is also within you. How shall you go about releasing the glories of this Kingdom *here* and *now?*

First, acknowledge that the Words of Beloved Jesus are Truth! Therefore, within your own beating heart is the seed of Divinity . . . the *seed* of Health . . . the seed of the Kingdom of God (All Good) toward which all aspire, knowing It to be a place of peace, happiness, abundance and freedom from disease.

The Earth and Its people require healing,—not only of the diseases of the flesh but of the mind, the emotions and the soul as well. All these people are not yet aware that the Kingdom of Heaven (which contains all Healing Power) is within their own beating hearts. "If it were not so, I would not have told you!"—Jesus.

In some, this seed of Divinity has sprouted and the fresh young leaves and the perfumed flowers of Healing already stretch forth to bless themselves and those who look to them for assistance. This seed of Divinity has developed through intensive adoration and devotion to the Divine Presence within each beating heart. Such adoration and devotion couple the use of the mental faculties with the feelings of the seeker. *What the individual's attention is upon THAT he becomes!* Therefore, if the attention of the individual is upon the Divine Presence of God, the individual becomes more and more like unto that Presence. If the attention of the indi-

vidual is upon impurity, lack, sickness and distress of any kind, his world outpictures such distress.

"Wheresoever two or more are gathered together in My Name, there am I in the midst of them."—Jesus. Also, whenever a group of people gather together discussing their ailments, operations and distresses, there such ailments are in the midst of them! It is as simple as that. Like attracts like! The Presence of God and His gifts of Healing or the presence of distress and limitation *are literally invoked by the attention* of the group *upon One* or the other. An individual who can tactfully change the attention, thought and discussion pattern of a group from distressing appearances toward hopeful God-like manifestations, renders a great service to God and His Messengers, as well as to the people concerned.

Attention is life! It flows, at the direction of free-will, into whatever "cup" a man creates through his thought and energizes through his feelings. Is it not wiser to create a "cup" in the image and likeness of Jesus Christ, rather than a "cup" in the image and likeness of disease and distress? *Either* "cup" will be filled by the collective energies of the group.

The entire Universe in which we live is filled with intelligent life (light substance). It is responsive to the thoughts, feelings, spoken words and actions of man. You can raise the life in you and around you by *consciously endeavoring* to think, feel, speak and act *only in a constructive manner* at all times—remembering that this life, awaiting your command, *will act for you.* It will form a "cup" which will be filled with light or darkness—according to your design and feeling.

If one is experiencing sickness, let him stop his thinking and talking about the condition; at least as much as he can. Rather let him think of the Presence of God within his heart. As man's attention goes to this Presence more and more, it becomes a "habit" of a constructive nature. The Presence of God, responding to the attention of man, begins to expand Its light and healing through such an one. When one has attained true confidence in that Presence of pure Christ Light abiding within his beating heart and Its power and desire to heal him; when he can feel that light expanding through him; he can then direct beams of that light from his own heart toward any portion of his own body and world or that of his loved ones; holding the focus of that light (like

a searchlight) upon the diseased appearance until that light transmutes and raises the dis-ease into perfect ease of expression. Until man comes to feel that oneness with his own Presence, He can invite the Presence of Jesus Christ to direct His Healing Rays into the *cause* of the distress in himself or others and hold those Rays anchored about such individuals until the healing is completed.

An important factor to remember is to *be constant in the use of* the exercise until manifestation occurs! Try this simple exercise on a small scale, for a few minutes at a time, at first. Later, you can expand your activity and the time of your devotional and healing experiments.

Be as ready to give God an opportunity to heal as man has been ready and eager to discuss and mull over distress. God's Law of perfection of expression can no more fail to act through you than the Sun can stop shining. Neither God nor His Celestial Messengers ever intrude into the world of any individual. They come only when invited.

In the case of all sick persons asking for healing through prayer and spiritual "treatment", the healing essence flows into and is anchored around such an one *until he becomes harmonious enough to accept that healing.* Be not distressed if your healing calls *seem* not to manifest *immediately!* Call, rather, that the individual to whom you are directing these Rays, *can and will accept the healing* and BE AT PEACE.

Remember, no two things can occupy the same place at the same time. Thus where there is *ease,*—its opposite, *disease,* cannot express. "Ease" is of God's Kingdom. "*Dis*-ease" (lack of ease) is not of God's Kingdom. Therefore, it has no reality or life except as man feeds it *by his own life*—his attention and acceptance of its presence within himself or those in the world around him. Beloved Jesus said: "Man cannot serve two Masters." In other words, man cannot think, feel, speak and act constructively *and* destructively *at the same time.*

Man finds it difficult to accept the truth that he alone has created his misfortunes. Yet experimentation with the use of constructive mental pictures; constructive, joyous feelings; harmonious actions; comforting and positive words—will reap a harvest of good for the individual.

God has placed His Presence within our hearts. He has placed the seed of His Kingdom therein. He has created

LIGHT—universal intelligent substance—which is directed by Him to form the "cups" that we make and to energize these "cups" by the feelings we generate. What more can He do but WAIT for our acceptance of His gifts and our intelligent use of them to expand the borders of His Kingdom on this Earth—creating perfection for ourselves and others!

One day, *every man shall be able,* as Jesus did, to stretch forth his hands and issue the decree: "Be ye perfect . . .". Then that which is seemingly imperfect shall be no more and the perfect man within will arise to honor the Presence of God—Master through that man! "The things that I have done shall ye do also; and greater things than these . . ."—Jesus.

One of these things is to heal! Some fine men and women are already doing so! Come you forth from the multitude and do likewise!

OPULENCE—YOUR DIVINE BIRTHRIGHT!

All mankind *naturally* desire the abundance of every good and perfect thing which will make their lives happier; also making it easier to help their families and serve their fellowman. Master Jesus Himself made the statement: "I Am come that ye might have life, and that ye may have it more abundantly." In Corinthians (New Testament) we find "eye hath not seen nor ear heard, . . . the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him." Notice! He says *"hath prepared,"*—it is all ready now—*awaiting only our claiming of it! Already prepared* are the many glorious expressions of God's manifold gifts of life. How shall we best prepare ourselves to receive them?

We know that an all-wise, all-loving Father (by His very nature—the *fullness* of Divine Love) would not send his children to Earth without having first prepared for their *abundant welfare.* Somewhere along the way, man has merely "misplaced" his Divine Heritage . . . lost the way to the treasure house of supply . . . and accepted poverty as an imposition of God's Will.

The first attitude of the individual desiring to again know, experience and enjoy his Divine Heritage, is for such an one to *accept* in his feelings that the Father has lovingly and abundantly prepared both for his coming into this world and for the needs of his journey through this world. This creates a consciousness of confidence, expectancy, faith and assurance in the feelings of the individual. The next attitude is to take "stock" so to speak of the talents, gifts and potential services which he can presently use to open the doors to greater supply . . . NOW! Then the individual uses his present talents in a practical manner, knowing that the very life which flows through him comes from God and that his use of that life will determine how much more of the God life will be entrusted to him in the future. (Remember the story which beloved Jesus used to illustrate this point. One man buried his talents in the ground; the others used good common sense and increased their talents according to their capacities so that when they were called before their Lord for an accounting of what they had done with their talents, they had not only their original gift—but more.)

All men have life—which they use according to the directives and decisions of their own free-will. The "abundant life" comes to those who use life courageously, freely and selflessly, increasing their talents, gifts and virtues by practical service to God and man. Would you give *more* of your own supply to a miser who was merely hoarding that supply and not investing it in some particular activity whereby it might increase? Neither would the Father of us all give more life (the abundant life) to those who are not utilizing to their own utmost capacity more of that precious gift of life.

It has been wisely said: "no man, woman or child is so poor that they cannot offer a prayer for their fellowman". This *costs* the individual nothing so far as worldly goods are concerned but it does, in truth, show the spirit of giving so essential in expanding one's present supply. Elijah asked the widow what she had *at hand* and increased that supply indescribably. What have you "at hand"? It could be a lovely voice; a gift for writing inspiring words; a pair of capable hands trained to clean a house. Are you using what you have in God's service? Examine yourselves, beloved ones, for *upon*

the use of what you have will be determined what further blessings can be given unto you.

Prosperity is not to be measured alone by the possession of a wealth of money or this world's goods. A man is prosperous in spirit and in works as well. To live the "abundant life" is to develop that prosperous spirit and, uniting with God in service, face each new day desirous of serving Him and your fellowman with the talents at hand. Poverty is not measured by lack of wealth alone. A man may be poor in spirit and in works, although he has much of this world's currency at his disposal.

Start where you are! Experiment with the free use of your gift of life to bless. See the expansion of your own spirit of giving and witness your receiving of the greater gifts of the Divine Giver to you.

Why should man let those gifts *already prepared* for him await a future day for manifestation when the entire Earth and all Its people require the blessings of those gifts NOW? Assert your right to your Divine Heritage by proving that your life *today* is the balance of giving and of receiving. Then you are a "lifeline" between the Realms wherein The Father dwells and the darker realms wherein most of the people of Earth presently abide. Your love of God will draw forth from Him greater and greater gifts, powers and talents and you will want to express these gifts, powers and talents for the blessings of all creatures . . . human, bird, animal and elemental. Live the "abundant life" without fear—in Jesus Christ's most Holy Name!

"Beloved Heavenly Father!: Through your Divine Messengers we have been told that You have *already prepared* for our journey through this world of form. I am ready now to accept my Divine Heritage. Help me, Father, to use my life to its fullest possible extent to bless all that is. Then I shall, indeed, know and experience the "abundant life" of which your Divine Son spoke!

If there is need for any good and perfect thing in my world, You have already prepared to fill that need. Help me to confidently raise my hand and accept Your gift. Let me walk, as did the disciples of old when they were about the "Father's Business" . . . knowing that He Who watches over me is *all* powerful and is even now supplying me with His gifts."

God's "business" is creating comfort, giving blessing and assistance wherever you are!